

KENTUCKY AGRI-NEWS



Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service
P.O. Box 1120
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-1120
Phone: (502) 582-5293 or 1-800-928-5277
E-mail: nass-ky@nass.usda.gov
and the
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FEATURING: ▶Agricultural Prices ▶Hogs & Pigs ▶Cattle on Feed ▶Cold Storage
▶Livestock Slaughter ▶Milk Production ▶Egg Production

LIVESTOCK PRICES STRONG WHILE CROP PRICES MIXED

Mid-month prices received by **Kentucky** farmers were up for livestock while mixed for crops.

Cattle prices for mid-December were up. **Steers and heifers** 500 lbs. and over averaged \$74.00 per cwt., up \$2.00 from November while down \$2.00 from the previous December. **Beef cows** averaged \$33.00 per cwt., up \$1.00 from November while down \$3.00 from December 2001. **Calves** under 500 pounds averaged \$82.00 per cwt. The mid-December price was up \$2.00 from the previous month while down \$8.00 from the previous year.

Prices received for **barrows and gilts** for mid-December was \$31.00 per cwt., up \$3.00 from November and down \$2.00 from a year earlier. **Sows** averaged \$22.00 per cwt., up \$1.00 from November while down \$2.00 from December 2001.

The **all milk** price for mid-December averaged \$12.80 per cwt. This was down 20 cents from the previous month and down \$1.30 from the previous year's price.

Corn and soybean prices at mid-December were both down. The **corn** price was \$2.50 per bushel, down 10 cents from November while up 38 cents from December 2001. **Soybean** price was \$5.70 per bushel, down 2 cents from November and up \$1.39 from December 2001. **Winter wheat** averaged \$3.60 per bushel, up 22 cents from the November 2002 price and up 84 cents from the December 2001 price. The mid-December price was the highest winter wheat price since May 1997.

The preliminary **U.S.** All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December was 97 based on 1990-92=100, down 1 point (1.0 percent) from the November index. Lower prices for wheat, lettuce, broccoli, and eggs more than offset higher prices for cattle, tomatoes, hogs, and strawberries. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell often affects the overall index. Decreased marketings of cattle, soybeans, grapes, and corn offset increased marketings of wheat, tobacco, milk, and oranges.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index was 4 points (4.3 percent) above December, 2001. Higher prices for soybeans, wheat, corn, and cattle more than offset lower prices for broilers, hogs, lettuce, calves, and dry beans.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS - (Dollars)

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY			US
		DEC	NOV	DEC	DEC
		2001	2002	2002	2002
		Entire Month		Mid-Month g/	
All Corn <u>b/ c/</u>	Bu.	2.12	2.60	2.50	2.29
Soybeans <u>b/</u>	Bu.	4.31	5.72	5.70	5.48
Winter Wheat <u>b/</u>	Bu.	2.76	3.38	3.60	3.83
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	100.00	105.00	110.00	100.00
All Other Hay,	Ton	58.00	61.00	64.00	74.70
All Hogs	Cwt.	32.60	27.70	30.60	30.00
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	33.00	28.00	31.00	30.40
Sows	Cwt.	24.00	21.00	22.00	22.80
All Beef Cattle <u>d/</u>	Cwt.	66.40	62.40	64.20	70.20
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	76.00	72.00	74.00	74.80
Cows	Cwt.	36.00	32.00	33.00	34.20
Calves <u>f/</u>	Cwt.	90.00	80.00	82.00	93.60
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	14.10	13.00	12.80	11.90
Fluid <u>g/</u>	Cwt.	14.10	13.00	--	11.90
Manufactured	Cwt.	11.50	--	--	10.50
Hog-Corn Ratios <u>h/</u>	Bu.	15.4	10.7	12.2	13.1

g/ Preliminary. **b/** Includes contract sales paid during month. **c/** Includes yellow and white corn. **d/** "Steers and heifers" and "cows" combined. **e/** 500 lbs. and over. **f/** Under 500 lbs. **g/** Includes surplus diverted to manufacturing. **h/** Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 lbs. of hog live weight.

DECEMBER 1 HOG & PIG INVENTORY

There were 370,000 hogs and pigs on Kentucky farms as of December 1, 2002, down 9 percent from a year ago. Breeding inventory at 40,000 head was 20 percent below a year ago, while market hog inventory at 330,000 head was 7 percent below December 1, 2001. There were 1,200 operations with hogs during 2002, down from 1,300 in 2001.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2002, was 58.9 million head. This was 1 percent below December 1, 2001, and 2 percent below September 1, 2002. Breeding inventory, at 6.01 million head, was down 3 percent from December 1, 2001, and down 1 percent from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 52.9 million head, was 1 percent below last year and 2 percent below last quarter.

The September-November 2002 U.S. pig crop, at 24.9 million head, was 2 percent less than 2001, and 1 percent less than 2000. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.82 million head, 2 percent below last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 47 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs per litter was 8.83 pigs saved per litter for the September-November 2002 period, compared to 8.82 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation

ranged from 7.50 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.00 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.81 million sows farrow during the December 2002-February 2003 quarter, 1 percent below the actual farrowings during the same period in 2002, and 2 percent above 2001. Intended farrowings for March-May 2003, at 2.85 million sows, are 3 percent below the same period in 2002, and 1 percent below 2001.

The number of hog operations with hogs totaled 75,350 during 2002, down 7 percent from last year and 13 percent below 2000. Places with 2,000 or more hogs on hand accounted for 10 percent of the operations and 75 percent of the inventory. This is the first time operations with inventories over 2,000 head have controlled 75 percent or more of the total inventory. The number of operations with over 5,000 head of inventory, at 2,258, accounted for 53 percent of the total inventory, up from 52 percent a year ago. The total number of hogs under contract, owned by these over 5,000 head operations, but raised by contractees, accounted for 33 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, unchanged from last year.

HOGS AND PIGS: INVENTORY NUMBERS BY CLASS & WEIGHT GROUPS

December 1, 2001 - 2002, SELECTED STATES AND U.S.

December 1, 2001 - 2002, SELECTED STATES AND U.S.														
TOTAL			BREEDING		MARKET		MARKET HOGS							
State	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	Under 60 lbs.		60-119 lbs		120-179 lbs		180 lbs +	
	1,000	% of	1,000	% of	1,000	% of	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	Head	2001	Head	2001	Head	2001	(1,000 Head)							
AR	305	53	80	80	225	47	230	115	75	40	75	35	100	35
GA	345	110	55	110	290	109	106	133	69	67	49	50	41	40
IL	4,050	95	430	96	3,620	95	1,380	1,320	920	890	830	780	670	630
IN	3,150	98	330	97	2,820	99	1,040	1,010	710	670	580	600	530	540
IA	15,300	99	1,050	93	14,250	100	4,510	4,400	3,900	3,900	3,060	3,100	2,800	2,850
KS	1,530	97	160	94	1,370	98	480	440	290	320	250	290	380	320
KY	370	91	40	80	330	93	120	110	90	80	80	75	65	65
MI	860	90	100	91	760	89	315	285	205	180	170	145	160	150
MN	5,900	102	580	102	5,320	102	2,130	2,110	1,250	1,330	1,030	1,080	820	800
MO	2,950	98	360	95	2,590	99	1,140	1,190	600	530	510	490	370	380
NE	2,900	100	365	99	2,535	100	1,030	1,010	610	650	500	480	390	395
NC	9,600	98	1,000	100	8,600	98	3,500	3,450	2,020	2,000	1,730	1,700	1,550	1,450
OH	1,440	101	155	97	1,285	101	520	525	310	310	265	275	175	175
OK	2,490	100	330	97	2,160	101	860	910	350	330	300	260	630	660
PA	1,080	102	125	96	955	103	365	340	235	250	180	185	150	180
SD	1,290	100	140	97	1,150	100	410	370	290	300	250	260	195	220
WI	520	96	60	92	460	97	180	165	105	110	100	95	90	90
U.S.	58,943	99	6,012	97	52,931	99	19,908	19,461	12,924	12,919	10,744	10,736	10,018	9,815

U. S. CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.9 million head on December 1, 2002. The inventory was 8 percent below December 1, 2001 and 9 percent below December 1, 2000.

Placements in feedlots during November totaled 1.98 million, 4 percent above 2001 but 2 percent below 2000. Net placements were 1.89 million. During November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 589,000, 600-699 pounds were 660,000, 700-799 pounds were 417,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 311,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during November totaled 1.73 million, 4 percent below 2001 and 5 percent below 2000. **Other disappearance** totaled 90,000 during November, 13 percent above 2001 but 14 percent below 2000.

CATTLE ON FEED 7 STATES 1/

Cattle on feed December 1, 2002, in the 7 States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.4 million, down 8 percent from the previous year and 8 percent below December 1, 2000.

Placements in feedlots during November totaled 1.67 million, 5 percent above 2001 but 1 percent below 2000.

Marketings during November totaled 1.51 million, 2 percent below 2001 and 4 percent below 2000.

Other disappearance during November was 80,000 head, 18 percent above 2001 but 10 percent below 2000.

1/AZ, CA, CO, IA, KS, NE, and TX.

COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on November 30, 2002, were greater than year earlier levels for poultry, red meat, and orange juice concentrate. Cooler stocks of pecans were also above last year.

All U. S. Warehouse Stocks				Nov. 02 as % of	
Commodity	Nov. 30, 2001	Oct. 31, 2002	Nov. 30, 2002	Nov. 2001	Oct. 2002
Frozen Poultry	1,000 lbs			Percent	
Chicken:					
Broilers (Whole)	22,294	33,168	30,790	138	93
Other Chicken	656,518	822,049	759,635	116	92
Total Chicken <u>1/</u>	684,017	861,284	796,076	116	92
Turkey	260,029	624,940	330,739	127	53
Total Frozen Poultry <u>2/</u>	952,397	1,495,099	1,134,401	119	76
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	427,550	525,167	514,987	120	98
Pork:					
Bellies	36,297	10,354	18,021	50	174
Total Frozen Pork <u>3/</u>	432,732	489,802	465,350	108	95
Total Meat <u>4/</u>	880,948	1,038,867	1,002,102	114	96

1/ Includes broilers, hens and other chickens. 2/ Includes chicken, turkey and ducks. 3/ Includes picnics, hams, bellies, loins, ribs, trimmings, and other frozen pork. 4/ Includes frozen beef, pork, veal, lamb and mutton, other frozen meat, canned hams, and other canned meat.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.91 billion pounds in November, down 2 percent from the 3.97 billion pounds produced in November 2001. November 2001 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays. November 2002 contained 21 weekdays (including two holidays) and 5 Saturdays. Beef production, at 2.16 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.86 million head, down 1 percent from November 2001. The average live weight was 1,260 pounds, up 5 pounds from November a year ago. Pork production totaled 1.71 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.66 million head, 1 percent below November 2001. The average live weight was 268 pounds, down 1 pound from November a year ago. Lamb and mutton production, at 17.8 million pounds, was down 9 percent from November 2001 and 6 percent below the previous record low set in 1998. Sheep slaughter totaled 271,300 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 132 pounds, down 6 pounds from November a year ago.

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: UNITED STATES & KENTUCKY 1/

				Nov. 02 as % of	
Type	Nov 2001	Oct 2002	Nov 2002	Nov 2001	Oct 2002
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	2,201	2,512	2,164	98	86
Veal	16.2	18.7	16.9	104	90
Pork	1,733	1,831	1,709	99	93
Lamb & Mutton	19.7	19.6	17.8	91	91
Total U.S.	3,970	4,382	3,907	98	89
Total Kentucky	39.9	43.8	41.8	105	95

1/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER: KENTUCKY & U.S. NOVEMBER 2001 & 2002 1/

Type	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
Kentucky						
Cattle	1.4	1.5	1,217	1,209	889	824
Hogs	197.9	206.5	52,654	55,226	266	267
Sheep & Lambs	0.8	0.8	122	92	155	123
United States						
Cattle	2,903.4	2,861.3	3,644,238	3,606,275	1,255	1,260
Hogs	8,716.2	8,655.5	2,345,186	2,315,439	269	268
Sheep & Lambs	287.1	271.3	39,614	35,809	138	132

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

U. S. MILK PRODUCTION UP 1.8 PERCENT

Kentucky milk production for November 2002 totaled 120 million pounds, down 8 percent from November 2001 and down 2 percent from October 2002. Average number of cows, at 120,000 head, was down 5,000 head from last year and unchanged from last month. Milk per cow, at 1,000 pounds, was down 50 pounds from a year earlier, and down 25 pounds from October 2002.

Milk production in the **20 major States** during November totaled 11.7 billion pounds, up 1.8 percent from November 2001. October

revised production, at 12.0 billion pounds was up 2.1 percent from October 2001. The October revision represented a decrease of 26 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,501 pounds for November, 16 pounds above November 2001. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.79 million head, 54,000 head more than November 2001, and 1,000 head more than October 2002.

MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION FOR NOVEMBER, SELECTED STATES

STATE	Milk Cows <u>1/</u>		Milk Per Cow <u>2/</u>		Production <u>2/</u>		2002 as %
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	of 2001
	Thousands		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,614	1,670	1,685	1,700	2,720	2,839	104
IL	115	115	1,375	1,420	158	163	103
IN	155	148	1,350	1,400	209	207	99
KY	125	120	1,050	1,000	131	120	92
MO	141	135	1,080	1,110	152	150	99
OH	256	264	1,370	1,370	351	362	103
VA	119	119	1,285	1,260	153	150	98
WI	1,280	1,266	1,365	1,390	1,747	1,760	101
20-State							
Total	7,739	7,793	1,485	1,501	11,492	11,697	102

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Type	Nov 2001	Nov 2002	'02 as % of '01
Egg Production			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,191	7,246	101
Average Layers (000)	337,915	338,593	100
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,128	2,140	101
Egg Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Dec 1 (000)	29,499	28,422	96
Chicks Hatched (000)	32,081	31,078	97
Broiler Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Dec 1 (000)	640,603	646,990	101
Chicks Hatched (000)	702,607	690,024	98

Internet Access: Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service (KASS) data including this report are available free of charge on our Internet homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky>. Links to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center and other web sites related to Kentucky Agriculture are also included. National & State reports and data are available on the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) homepage located at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>